



# Our House January 2024

newsletter archive

## A Message from the President

As promised 2024 is off to a fast start with activity at the club taking place on a six day a week basis. Our Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday evening leagues are operating at capacity, participation is growing on Wednesday mornings, and we now have a Women's league up and running every other Wednesday evening (with space for more). Saturdays have become very busy with LTC's, instructional and beginner's leagues.

Sign ups for our final session of the season are now open so be sure to go online and secure your spot for your preferred time(s). Due to the expected high demand, you will see that we have also added a 4-week Sunday afternoon league so we will be operating a full seven days a week through the end of the season. In another exciting development, with details still to be finalized, we are working with Community Hospital in Anderson to sponsor a youth program on Sundays in March (if you have an interest in being involved with this please contact myself, Sharon Martin, or Geoff Randolph).

Our Event's crew under Jim Gangnon's leadership is busy hosting private events as space allows. It is so great to see all of this activity in our growing club. In line with our mission of promoting the sport and in keeping with our roots, we will be hosting a number of arena clubs from around the Midwest on February 17th. This not only gives them an opportunity to play on our quality dedicated ice but to also compete for the bragging rights of being the (unofficial) Midwest Arena Champions. If you have a chance, please come out to cheer them on.

Speaking of championships, we are so excited to be hosting the USA Curling Senior Women's National Championship running from February 20 - 25. Believe me, this is a big deal, especially for a club as new as ours. You can expect to see coverage in the local media. We will be opening a limited number of spectator spots to the general public on a reservation only basis due to our limited spectator space, but all members are welcome to come out, cheer on the competitors and experience some high-level curling. I would like to give a shout out to Matt James for all of the hard work he has been putting in behind the scenes to make this event a success. And thank you to everyone who has volunteered to fill the timekeeper, bartender, and other roles as well as the members of our stellar ice crew who will be busy all week providing high quality playing conditions.

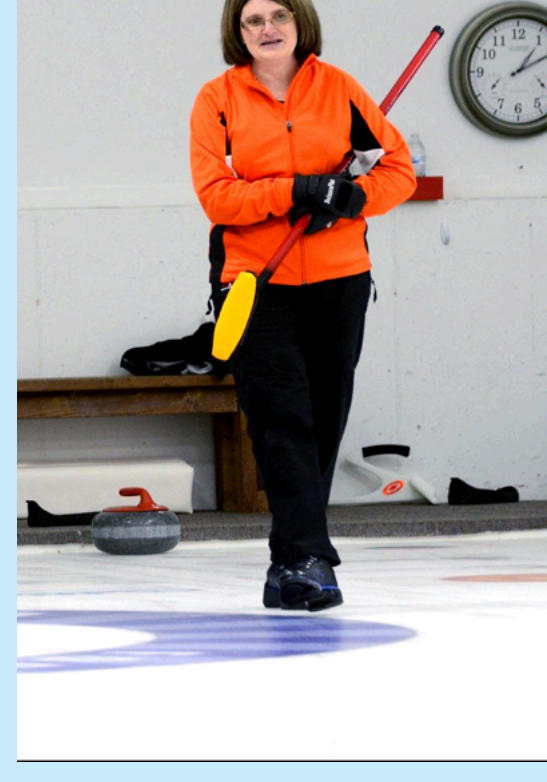
I hope you are all as excited as I am as Circle City continues to make its mark in the curling world!

Good Curling!

Jim Puckering

## "Home Team" Competes in USA Curling Women's Senior National Championship February 21st - 25th

We are excited to have a team that includes two CCCC Members - Susan Fleck and Sheila McKinley - to cheer on in the upcoming Senior Women's National Championship. Meet the team:



### Brenda Mason, Skip

Brenda's home club is Midland Curling Club in Midland, Michigan. She has been curling for 18 years and has competed in Club Nationals in 2013 and 2019 and the Senior Nationals in 2018. Brenda became interested in curling after watching curling on TV for many years in Canada. After she moved to Midland, she went to an open house at the Midland Curling Club, and was hooked! When asked what she was most looking forward to about the upcoming competition, Brenda said "Playing with some great ladies and gaining some curling experience at the National level, and coming to Circle City and playing on their great ice!" and added, "Thank you to the Circle City Curling Club for hosting this event! I know it takes a lot of volunteers to put on an event like this!"



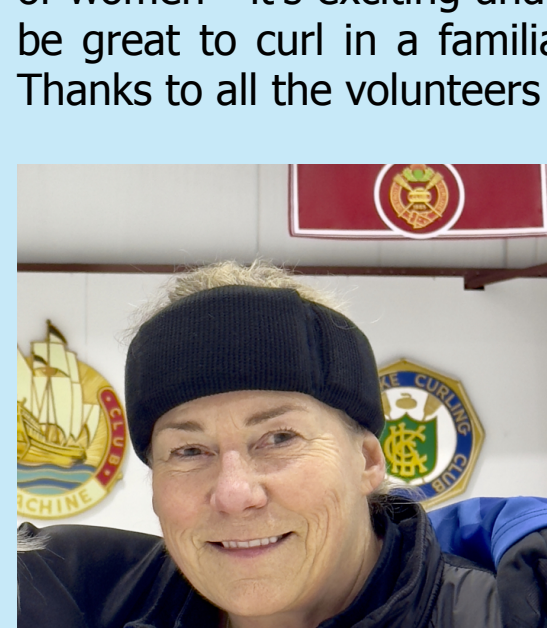
### Marty Lemert, Vice Skip

Marty is a member of Fort Wayne Curling Club and has been curling since 2012. Marty says she remembers the fun her parents had curling when she was little so she decided to give it a try in her 40's and loved it. She competed at the Arena Nationals in 2013 and Senior Women's Nationals in 2018. When asked what she was most looking forward to about the upcoming competition, Marty said, "Reconnecting with fellow curling cougars who aren't shy about sweeping with younger men and even sharing brooms with them." Marty would also like people to know that the first rule of curling is: "What is said at the broomstacking table, stays at the broomstacking table".



### Sheila McKinley, Second

Sheila has been curling for three and a half years, 2 of which were on arena ice and the rest on CCCC's beautiful dedicated ice! Sheila says that she became interested in curling after an event with family in Canada. "Several members of my family belong to a curling club north of Toronto and they rented the facility for a Christmas family spiel. My husband DJ and I were instantly hooked. On the drive back to Indiana, we googled 'Curling in Indianapolis' and the Circle City Curling Club popped up. We signed up right away and the rest is history. I didn't curl first growing up in Canada and now love the game as an adult." Sheila curled in her first international event this year in Detroit, the Ladies International Bonspiel, where she curled with three other CCCC curlers (Susan, Kate DeCarlo and Tammy Hoffman). This will be Sheila's first national competition. When asked what she was most looking forward to about the upcoming competition, Sheila said, "The experience and opportunity to curl with a very talented group of women - it's exciting and terrifying all at the same time! ". She added, "It will be great to curl in a familiar facility and show off the Circle City Curling Club. Thanks to all the volunteers for making this event happen."



### Susan Fleck, Lead

Susan has been curling for 12 years. When asked how she became interested in curling, Susan replied, "In 2003 I was in Altona, Manitoba, for work and it happened to be during their national championship, the Scott Tournament of Hearts. It was televised each night and, while I didn't understand what I was watching, I could not take my eyes off the TV. The folks at the local rink even let us throw a couple stones. I was hooked! In 2012 I learned we had curling in Indianapolis and joined the club." Susan competed in the Arena Nationals in 2014, 2016, 2017, and 2019. About her highest finish in 4th in 2016, Susan said, "Yes, we lost on a brilliant last shot and it was heartbreaking. But we were proud of our work during that tournament." When asked what she was most looking forward to about the upcoming competition, Susan said, "Competing with and against a talented group of women from across the country. It's not everyday you can compete against former Olympians and world champions. I am alternately excited and terrified!" and added, "I am super excited to have these women come to CCCC to experience our great ice and hospitality. And I am very grateful to everyone from the club for stepping up and volunteering to work. It is a huge undertaking for the club. Thank you all!"

Let's have a great member turnout to support these ladies. Good luck, Team Mason!

## CCCC's First Women's League Debuts on Jan. 17th



January 17th was an exciting day as it was the first night of our very first ever Women's League, which runs every other Wednesday night from 7-9:00pm. There are still openings - if you are interested, check out the website for details. We are planning a fun "Galentine's" Night for our next date on Feb. 14th.

## CCCC Members Rub Shoulders With Curling Celebrity



Pictured from left: Romeo Lozano, Chase Cooper, Matt Hamilton, John Horvatic and Todd Shelton

CCCC Members Romeo Lozano, Chase Cooper, John Horvatic and Todd Shelton competed in Madison Curling Club's Frozen Five and Under Bonspiel on January 26th-28th, where they ran into Matt Hamilton. Matt plays for Jon Shuster and was part of Shuster's gold medal winning team in the 2018 Winter Olympics, which was the first American team to win gold in curling. Romeo, Chase, John and Todd made it to the second round of the fourth event.

## Upcoming Events

- February 10th - Seven C's Cup (Cincinnati Friendly) @ Cincinnati CC
- February 17th - Friendly with Derby City/Grand Rapids/Troy @ CCCC
- February 21-25th - Women's Senior National Championships @ CCCC
- February 22nd - Deadline to register for Session 4 Leagues
- March 9th - Friendly vs. Fort Wayne CC @ FWCC
- March 16th & 17th - Shamrock Spiel (Brooms Up Trailer On-Site)
- March 30th - Save the Date: End of Season Party

## Circle City Curling Club Board of Directors

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Sharon Martin

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Keith Hammer

At-Large Members:  
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Jim Gangnon  
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